Parishads (ZPs) directly. During the year 2000-01, total allocation under IWDP has been enhanced from Rs. 82.00 crores in 1999-2000 to Rs. 130.00 crores and consequently, the releases to DRDAs / ZPs will also be increased. NGOs can also act as Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) under IWDP scheme, but the projects are sanctioned to DRDAs / Zilla Parishads only.

Sanitation requirements in rural areas

5622. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any survey to assess the sanitation requirements in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) No State-wise survey has recently been made by the Central Government to assess the sanitation requirements in the rural areas of the country. However, it is estimated that rural sanitation coverage is around 16 to 20 per cent of the total rural households in the country. The Working Group constituted by the Planning Commission for the 9th Plan had estimated a financial requirement of Rs. 6251 crores for attaining 50 per cent rural sanitation coverage.

MICMR programmes for rural women

5623. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Construction Management and Research has undertaken a programme to train rural women in computer and other vocational skills;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NICMAR is also providing training to women in skills of plumbing, wiring, white washing plastering;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed by Government to provide job opportunities to these trained women?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA): (a) to (e) No such training programme has been organized by this